

Transition Process

NCLB to ESSA

The new Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA) was signed into law by President Obama on December 10, 2015. The new federal law allows for a transition period so guidance can be developed, training can occur, and plans can be made.

In the many months ahead, state departments will continue to receive guidance and have an opportunity to participate in trainings. As outlined in ESSA, the North Dakota Department of Public Instruction will need to write a state plan and get approval through the U.S. Department of Education (USDE).

What has been communicated:

- Recently approved appropriations (funding for the 2016-2017 school year) funds NCLB programs, not ESSA.
- New programs created under ESSA will not be funded until the 2017-2018 school year.
- Each state's new accountability provisions begin in 2017-2018 (or when state plan is approved by the USDE, whichever is first).
- NCLB Program Improvement provisions will apply during the 2016-2017 school year (e.g., 10% set-aside for Professional Development, Supplemental Educational Services). There is potential for many schools and districts to bump out of improvement based on the spring 2016 ND State Assessment.
- Many NCLB provisions remain intact for the 2016-2017 school year. We are working on a plan to minimize the paperwork that districts are required to submit to the department for the transition year (e.g., PI documents and consolidated application information).

We need more information on:

- Schoolwide Flexibility